



Dear Connecticut Mayors,

Connecticut residents – young and old – always have been able to rely on their neighbors to see them through tough times. This year has been one of the toughest. High gas and grocery prices are squeezing the budgets of more Connecticut families and seniors on fixed incomes. Food pantries have seen a dramatic rise in the number of people they serve. Each year to help the fight against hunger, I encourage all state employees to donate to CT Food Bank and Foodshare at Thanksgiving and Christmas. We cannot wait until then – our neighbors need our help, and I am asking all Connecticut residents to join me in a very important campaign. I have dedicated \$25,000 to both CT Food Bank and Foodshare. Between July 29 and September 26, I am urging Connecticut citizens and businesses to take part in the *Governor's Care & Share Challenge* to match this \$50,000 donation.

Your citizens look to you for leadership and this is an issue that requires leadership at every level – starting with me. So please join me in promoting this campaign to all your residents and help us meet the challenge. Together we can lend a hand to CT Food Bank and Foodshare to provide food for over 350,000 families and individuals in Connecticut. These two organizations assist those who find themselves faced with hunger and in need of help, including seniors, children and working individuals in the cities, suburbs and rural areas of Connecticut.

Help make a difference in the lives of your city residents, friends and neighbors. Please announce this challenge on your website, your newsletter or any manner appropriate in communicating with your residents. Attached is the logo that should link to the *Governor's Care & Share Challenge* website: <http://vad.aidmatrix.org/vadxml.cfm?driveid=2740>. Posters may also be requested by contacting Debra Borrero at 860-524-7339.

Donations can be made through my website at [www.ct.gov/governorrell](http://www.ct.gov/governorrell) or checks can be made out to CT Food Bank &/or Foodshare and mailed to PO Box 120065 in East Haven, CT 06512.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and for joining with me, CT Food Bank, and Foodshare in meeting one of our toughest challenges of all ... HUNGER.

Sincerely,

M. Jodi Rell  
Governor